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WE'RE FOR AMERICA! AMERICANS!

Those who are insisting that the change of a few votes would have given Kentucky to Bryan should explain this little conundrum: CLEVELAND'S plurality in Kentucky in 1892 was 40,000, and the vote for WEAVER, Populist, was 23,000. Now is it worth while to talk about gaining 300 votes in the face of a loss in four years of 63,000?

THE LEDGER has been so busy straightening out the realcitrants at home that it hasn't had a chance to regulate the murderous Dons in Cuba. And now that it finds opportunity to begin that work, the field is so fully occupied that there's no room for it. After a WETTER, leastwise a little later, we MACEO way to help our friends the Cubans.

ADITOR STONE and Attorney General TAYLOR have been in conference in regard to the appointment of an assistant to the Attorney General at a proposed salary of \$2,000 per annum. The state has had to pay out in the past year about \$10,000 in extra attorney fees, and the new offer would, it is calculated, save the state from \$5,000 to \$8,000 every year. The matter is likely to be brought before the Legislature.

THE "IFS" IN ELECTIONS.

Some People Fond of Figuring on Inverted Facts.

Withburgh Dispatch.

There is an amusing example of the efforts of the Popocrats to let themselves down easily in the mathematical production of their organs to show that a slight change of the votes would have elected Bryan. The Washington Post, professing Sound Money, but secretly in sympathy with Bryanism, produces what we presume to be an authorized version of it, which is only surpassed in mathematical logic by a previous effort of The Chicago Record, also indorsed by The Post, in which it was proved by the employment of profound percentages that 5,400 is only two-thirds of such as 2,100.

The second effort does not deal with such advanced mathematics as percentages, but confines itself to simple addition and subtraction. It points out that whereas the combined majorities—meaning pluralities—of California, Oregon, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Indiana, Kentucky, West Virginia and Delaware only amount to 50,500, therefore, if a number of voters in each state amounting to a little more than half the plurality had changed from McKinley to Bryan they would have shifted 60 Electoral votes and changed the result of the election. This is indisputable. Also, if the sky had fallen, we might have caught larks.

The exact significance of this profound discovery may be broadened when we also perceive that the total of pluralities for Bryan in Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Kansas, Nebraska and Washington were only 53,000. Therefore, if 36,000 voters similarly distributed in those states had changed from Bryan to McKinley, the latter would have had 335 Electoral votes, and Bryan would only have got a majority 113. Its further exact value is shown by the fact that if in 1892 a change of only 33,000 votes had been properly distributed between Connecticut, Delaware, West Virginia, Indiana and Illinois, Montana and Oregon, Cleveland would have been defeated and Harrison elected.

But the pertinent fact is that the votes were not cast in this imaginary way. Figuring is a great thing, but a little sense goes as well with it as in the salting of hay.

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These Books can be seen at The Ledger Office, and subscriptions will be received here. Call and look at them. They will make a valuable Holiday Present.

KISSING NOT A CRIME.

This Decides a Magistrate in a Little Indiana Town.

Some interesting points are likely to arise because or the recent decision of an Indiana Magistrate that hugging and kissing a pretty woman against her will do not of themselves constitute assault and battery.

This opinion was handed down Wednesday at Nora, Ind., in the case against Postmaster Bowen. George Huffman, who runs the rival store in the town, has a very comely wife. Mrs. Huffman had Bowen arrested on the charge of assault and battery. She said he kissed her forty or fifty times while she was in the back part of her husband's store; also that he threw in a few good hard hugs for extra measure. Bowen proved that he was in the store but three minutes.

"Aside from the fact that three minutes is a pretty good darning short time to kiss a woman fifty times in," said the Court taking a large chew of tobacco, "I

would like to ask the complaining witness how she came out so far as permanent injuries are concerned?"

Mrs. Huffman blushingly admitted that she was physically none the worse for the amatory onslaught. Thereupon the Justice dismissed the case.

"In this here case of Huffman vs. Bowen, I hold," said he, "that there can be no assault where no injury results to the assaulter. As to the battery, that is another matter. By golly, I've often felt that there was an electric battery about somers when I kissed a black-eyed gal, but I don't see that the word 'electric' is specified here. You can go now, Bowen, and may the Lord have mercy on your soul."

More than one-fourth of the Illinois Central's 22,000 employees now own stock in the railroad.

The product of the dairies of the United States is given at \$430,000,000 a year. This includes the various milk pumps and hydrants engaged in the dairy business, but not the butter mills that churn only cream.

PROGRESS OF ELECTRICITY.

But Few Years Have Brought It Into General Use.

New York Journal.

The editor of a periodical devoted to the news of electrical development frequently heard during the recent electrical exposition some wiseacre remark to the ladies in his escort: "All very wonderful, but still we must remember that electricity is in its infancy." The editor, therefore, at the close of the exposition sent letters to a number of gentlemen who have spent a lifetime in the pursuit of electrical science, with the result that he has gathered some statistics to show that electricity is anything but an infant industry.

It appears that there are not less than 65,000,000 telegraph messages sent in the United States every year. The number of telephonic conversations is 750,000,000. There are 3,700 central electric light stations and 7,000 isolated electric light plants in buildings of all kinds. These

operate about 1,000,000 arc lights and 15,000,000 incandescents, as well as several hundred thousand electric motors. The electric railways of this country reach 1,000, with 12,000 miles of track and 25,000 cars. It is estimated that directly and indirectly some 3,000,000 persons are interested in electricity as their livelihood and sustenance.

Fresh Bulk and Can Oysters received daily at Martin Bros.

A Hint For Leap Year.

"Charlie, did you ever hear it said that if a person found a piece of clover and put it into a shoe, the first gentleman or lady the person walked with would be either their husband or wife?"

"No, I never heard of it before."

"Well, I have found a piece, and put it into my shoe this morning, and you are the first one I have walked with. I wonder if it is true?"

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